

STATE SOLID WASTE ADVISORY COMMITTEE

Meeting Summary – November 18, 2003

Bob Schille called the meeting to order. Following introductions, SWAC members approved the September 16, 2003 meeting summary.

Pierce County Illegal Dump Report – Steve Wamback

Pierce County kicked off the “**Pierce County Responds**” program two years ago. To date, we have received 4700 complaints (most were sent to Solid Waste Code Enforcement Office) and involved improperly stored vehicles. 629 complaints were resolved directly by phone. In the last 10 months, 1033 calls came in. Of the 1,033 calls, 250-300 were resolved (cleaned up and taken away). Sixty percent of the budget is spent cleaning up cars, and removing waste from illegal dump sites. Complaints must come from the public. County employees can not call in complaints.

In July 2003, the county council passed a new nuisance vehicle law (based on Chapter 46.55 RCW). The county sent post cards to residents informing them of this new law. Nuisance vehicles must be stored in a building or behind a screen (as long as the building or screening meets other applicable regulations). Pierce County’s new law clarifies definitions which are also found in state law. But just like with the state law, if a vehicle fails 3 of the 4 criteria, then an officer could issue a citation. Language was added to the law concerning meth labs in vehicles which could be considered a nuisance vehicle.

There is a Cooperative Abatement Program which means the county will split the bill 50/50 with the vehicle owner. If a vehicle owner does not respond, this is considered a misdemeanor. This new program has won awards from The National Association of County Officials (NACO), SWANA and Pierce County Rotary.

Litter Campaign Update - Megan Warfield

Megan gave us an informative update on the litter campaign which was launched in April 2002. Every year, 16 million pounds of litter ends up on Washington’s highways. Six million pounds are found in our parks and public areas. Four million dollars pays for picking up 25-35% of that litter. To get the word out about littering, we’ve put out television and radio spots using humor (the Spanish Inquisitor Torquemada) and focusing on the steep fines. In 2003, broadcast achievements were: 80 million gross impressions (this is up from 60 million in 2002). In 2003, we added billboards in the Tacoma, Seattle, Vancouver, Spokane and Wenatchee areas which greatly increased our campaign reach.

Our litter hotline (1-866-LITTER1) takes calls from the public who have witnessed litterers. These litterers receive a stern letter from Washington State Patrol reminding them of the steep fines for littering. As of October 31, 2003, 18,119 calls had been processed. In 2001, WSP issued 4351 tickets. In 2002, 4773 tickets were issued.

As a campaign partner, McDonald’s distributed 1.25 million car litter bags to drive-through customers (spread out over 225 restaurants). They also displayed educational campaign materials in their drive-through windows, on tray liners (175 restaurants) and even sent a litter message to their employees through a newsletter. In return, Ecology’s commercials were tagged with the McDonalds logo.

Other partnerships in the public sector: Department of Transportation, Washington State Patrol, Department of Natural Resources, Department of Corrections, Parks and Recreation Commission, and County Solid Waste & Public Works Departments.

Private Sector Partnerships in 2003: BELO, Fox Sports Net, Mariners, Fisher Broadcasting, SuperMall (Auburn), Pacific Science Center, Washington Forest Protection Association, Ronald McDonald House Charities of Western Washington, and McDonald's Western Washington Operator's Association.

In 2002, the Department of Transportation posted 135 "Litter and it will Hurt" road signs statewide. The signs feature the campaign slogan and the litter hotline phone number. In 2003, several local governments have installed the campaign signs on local roads.

Campaign Plans for 2004: The campaign is on-going (hotline, website, etc.). We will produce and distribute a 5-minute enforcement video for State Patrol to use as a training tool. We will retire Torquemada and rework spots to focus on fines (most likely cigarette butts and unsecured loads). We will approach the Department of Licensing as a bag distribution partner. We also need to find other litter bag sponsors.

State Plan Update – Cheryl Smith

The draft Beyond Waste Plan will be available mid-February or early March 2004. The SWAC Beyond Waste Subcommittee meeting will most likely be held in March. A public input and review meeting will also be held in March. Revisions will be made in April and the final Beyond Waste Plan will be ready in May of 2004.

A joint Beyond Waste report between Solid Waste and Hazardous Waste will be produced annually. The first report will be released in 2005. This report will include existing, as well as new indicators, will be web-based, user friendly and show the big picture. This report will also discuss the following indicators:

- **Modified solid waste indicators** - Total solid waste disposed, in aggregate and per person {including MRW, industrial and C&D by sector}, MSW recycling rate including technical and organic material recycling rates {state and local}).
- **Modified hazardous waste indicators** - includes industrial sector information) – We will use existing information to analyze for trends at the facility level and report at the sector level (e.g., at the 5-6 digit NAICS code level). This analysis could include: Changes in the amount of hazardous waste generated and recycled, changes in the amount of hierarchy of hazardous waste management, and growth in the sector (increase/decrease in the number of generators).
- **Mass balance/materials flow** - Create a system and identify the information sources that will provide data to measure total material input and reuse using recycled feedstock. Our goal is to develop this indicator by 2007, and have it fully operational by 2010. The first step is to create a blueprint and workplan, then identify associated costs and implementation strategies. As work progresses, a phased approach will be used. The first phase will include developing an industrial recycled feedstock data point.
- **Basket of Goods** - Our goal is to have this indicator (toxicity of products) in the 2010 report. The first step is to conduct a feasibility study. We will partner with others on this indicator.

- **Chemical body burden** - We will support and report any data on this. We will not be developing our own data).
- **Green building** (2005 report will include: fraction of new building that are LEED on built green projects and local building codes with green elements. The 2010 report will discuss Green Building market share indicators)
- **Moderate Risk Waste** – Not yet developed by MRW team.
- **Organics** – Not yet discussed by organics team
- **Job creation**--green jobs - Our goal is to create this indicator over time. The 2005 report will discuss research and knowledge to date on this. One possibility is to further refine NAIC's (U.S. Census) to include categories of "green" jobs.

Cheryl asked the SWAC to answer the following questions:

1. What are your thoughts about the performance measures initiative ideas?
2. What are your thoughts about the "green building" initiative ideas?
3. What are your thoughts about the POTENTIAL list of substances of primary concern (MRW)?

Ecology 2004 Workplan Ideas – Lorie Hewitt

Beyond Waste Plan – Draft completed by 1/31/04, Final Completed in Spring 2004. Implementation of this plan will be a cooperative effort between Ecology, local governments and the private sector.

Moving toward sustainability – Ecology has completed its Sustainability Plan as mandated by Governor Locke. Jay Shepard is the lead for Ecology. All of the Solid Waste & Financial Assistance Program (SWFAP) staff are being trained in how to incorporate sustainability into their jobs. We will continue to work with local governments to include sustainability concepts in revised local plans.

Outsourcing Ecology Youth Corps – SWFAP is taking a 10 FTE cut this biennium (crew supervisors). We are looking toward the EYC program and outsourcing the program so the FTEs are not included in Ecology's numbers. We will do everything possible to not change the "look" of the EYC Program.

Implementing Chapter 173-350 WAC, Solid Waste Handling Standards – We will provide technical assistance to local jurisdictional health departments as facilities transition to 350 or close under 304. In February 2004, we will be conducting audits of solid waste facilities. In January 2004, we will develop annual reporting forms for all facilities under the new rule.

Getting Better Data – We will be pursuing better Coordinated Prevention Grants and other local government program report. We will also develop landfill performance measures to focus technical assistance efforts on landfills of concern. We will include better data about materials being diverted from disposal, in addition to materials recycled. We will work on calculating the generation number better, using the entire reported disposed waste stream (municipal landfills, energy-recovery, inert and limited purpose landfills) and the recycling plus diverted waste stream. We will provide a more accurate picture of waste generation.

More facilities will be reporting under the new solid waste rule. We will be able to get better information about how wastes moves around the state (through transfer stations, etc.) types and

amounts of materials that are land applied and beneficially used and how and what wastes are in interim storage.

A statewide facility database is being developed that will coordinate efforts of our four regional offices, recycling, moderate risk waste and facilities databases. Information will be available on our web (target for late 2004).

Use of internet – We are planning an information clearinghouse (through the web) to exchange project ideas, successes/failures and share information and documents between local governments. We will also be developing county profiles that will provide a comprehensive look at each county including programs, facilities, disposal and recycling information, MRW, biosolids, and more. Local governments will be invited to provide information. This information will also be available through the web.

Soils Management – Cullen Stephenson

We have been working to understand the concerns of Association of General Contractors and WA-DOT regarding how our revised rule changes soils management. A quick summary is that AGC and DOT feel that the rule revision regulates too many soils. Though there have not been any project delays to date, there is still a request to change the rule. We have scheduled a meeting of concerned parties on December 18 to get a broader view of the concern.

Mercury in Landfills Study – Cullen Stephenson

Cullen is working on a sanitized version of this report. It still is not anonymous enough. Cullen will work to pull an abstract out.

Proposed Legislation – All

E-waste: Representative Cooper is revising an e-waste bill. He will reintroduce it this coming session.

Product Stewardship: Funding from this bill will help recycle computers, TVs, etc.

In attendance:

Bob Schille, Jeff Kelley-Clarke, Cullen Stephenson, Brad Lovaas, Vicki Austin, Ed Dzedzy, Jody Snyder, Steve Wamback, Andy Comstock, Bill Dean, John Sherman, David Bosch, Pete Keller, Linda Dennis, Norm LeMay, Eddie Westmoreland, Deb Reynolds, Sally Toteff, Rob Guttridge, Craig Lorch, Robin Appleford, Chris Luboff, Megan Warfield, Lorie Hewitt, Dennis Hein, and Ellen Caywood.

2004 SWAC Meetings – 9:30-1:00 in ROA-34

January 27

March 23

May 25

July 27

September 28

November 16